



FORUM

Facts, Outcomes, & Research... Useful for Managing

HOW ARE WE DOING?

BY BRUCE CHUNN

The Planning and Research Section has produced the FORUM page in the Communiqué for the last 41 months. We have endeavored to present a research based format that addresses pertinent topics to the field of Corrections while trying to balance the subject matter in a manner that keeps the FORUM interesting. We have decided to take stock of our past efforts and ask you, the readers, what you liked, disliked, and what you'd like to see us do more often.

First, we'll categorize and recap some of the prior subjects featured in our articles. While a broad range of topics has been covered, we broke them down into eleven categories.

The greatest number of articles done falls into the category of *Research*. We've done eight stories on this topic. We've told you about research in DOC, survey tips, Research Advisory Board functions, offender characteristics, meta-analysis and other research related things. This topic is obviously close to home here at Planning and Research.

Offender related articles have been presented in six of our publications. These articles touched on prediction of offender behavior, population demographics, infractions, Indeterminate Sentence Review Board offenders, and links between foster care and prison sentences.

Programs in prison have been addressed several times. Articles on cost effectiveness of prison programs, program design and implementation, cost and benefits of sex offender treatment, self-help programs, and programs for offenders and their children have been written by our staff.

Escape has been addressed on a couple of occasions. Three papers have been posted regarding *recidivism*. *Performance measures* have been covered three times. *Classification* and *transition* issues have been seen four times. The *yearly awards* of grant money have been addressed in three articles.

Occasionally, we've thrown in a bit of *humor* in articles like Statistics for Fun, stories about statistical blunders, witty stories about the use of various confusing terms in research papers, and sometimes there is something remotely related to research.

With all this said, we ask you, how are we doing? What articles have been useful or interesting and which ones were not? Most of all we ask for feedback on what you'd like to see in our future publications—both within the topics mentioned above and in any other area. Our purpose is to present useful information that may benefit our readers both as employees and citizens. You can reach us in a number of ways: DOCMAIL, Outlook, Campus Mail, and by telephone. Our address and contact numbers are listed in our For Your Information section.

Thanks for taking the time to help us provide meaningful articles for you.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION..

BOOK/PUBLICATION OF THE MONTH

"Job stress in a changing workforce: investigating gender, diversity, and family issues" - By Gwendolyn Puryear and Joseph Hurrell 345 pages, 1994.

Examines how economic and demographic trends affect stress among workers, providing data from national in international studies. Available at the Washington State Library, Call # 158.7 JOB ST 1994 C1 or at Amazon for \$24.95.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH

Work Stressors and Stress Outcomes Among Correctional Officers - By M. Kathryn Seifert, Ph.D.
<http://ourworld.cs.com/drkathy2/work.htm>

Reducing work stress among correctional officers has the potential to make them healthier and more effective in their jobs. To reduce stress, it is necessary to understand its parameters and the variables that are related to it. Read about ways to deal with the stress your job brings you.

DEFINITION OF THE MONTH

Random Assignment: The assignment of individuals in the pool of all potential participants to either the experimental group or the control group in such a manner that their assignment is determined entirely by chance.

VIDEO OF THE MONTH

"Handling workplace pressure"

Identifies key sources of on-the-job stress. Focuses on hot spots and coping strategies. Available from the Washington State Library, Call # VIDEO 658.3
MANAGIN 1994 v1

DOC MONTHLY STATISTICS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002

INMATE POPULATION 16,251

Prisons 15,163
Pre-Release 521
Work Release 567

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS POPULATION

ACTIVE SUPERVISION 63,937
Community Custody 19,260
Supervision/PRS 7,580
County Confinement 2,957
Monetary Only 27,445
Misdemeanor 4,113
Other 2,582

INACTIVE STATUS 28,797

ESCAPES FROM SECURITY LEVELS 2-5, FOR FY03

	Date	Type	Return
1. WCCW (min)	07/02/02	Offsite Crew	09/07/02
2. CRCC	08/01/02	Facility	08/06/02
3. CRCC	08/01/02	Facility	NA
4. AHCC	09/24/02	Offsite Crew	09/24/02

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